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Item 116 (a) of the provisional agenda*
Human rights questions: implementation of human rights instruments

Enhancing the long-term effectiveness of the United Nations human rights treaty monitoring system

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The present note is submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 53/138, paragraph 4, in which the Assembly invited the Secretary-General to continue to solicit the views of Governments, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and interested persons on the final report of the independent expert on enhancing the long-term effectiveness of the United Nations human rights treaty monitoring system (E/CN.4/1997/74) and to submit a further report thereon, including his own views on the legal, administrative and other implications of the recommendations made in the report, taking into account further developments. The report requested (E/CN.4/1998/85 and Add.1 and Corr.1) was submitted to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-fourth session.

2. A similar request was made by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 1998/27. In that resolution, the Commission invited the Secretary-General to continue to solicit the views of Governments, United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and interested persons on the report of the independent expert and to submit a further report thereon, including the Secretary-General's own views on the legal, administrative and other implications of the recommendations made in the report to the Commission at its fifty-sixth session.

3. Pursuant to those resolutions, a second round of consultations with Governments, United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and interested persons on the final report of the independent expert was undertaken and a report was submitted thereon to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-sixth session, which was held at Geneva from 20 March to

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28 April 2000. The report summarized the comments received and the Secretary-General's own views on the legal, administrative and other implications of the recommendations of the independent expert. That report is contained in documents E/CN.4/2000/98 and Add.1 and is available to the General Assembly.